

# Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA)

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) was founded in 1959 under the Virginia Park Authorities Act. Currently there are six jurisdictional members: the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church. The NVRPA's mission is to *enhance the communities of Northern Virginia and enrich the lives of their citizens through the conservation of regional natural and cultural resources. It provides diverse regional recreational and educational opportunities, and fosters an understanding of the relationships between people and their environment.* Regional parks supplement local facilities, and are distinguished from county and local parks in that they are designed to appeal to and serve the broad-based population of the entire Northern Virginia region, or may be of a size or scope that a single jurisdiction could not undertake alone. The Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Railroad Regional Park, which extends from Alexandria through Arlington, Falls Church, Fairfax and Loudoun Counties, is an example of a project that has region-wide characteristics.

The NVRPA now owns 10,315 acres of land, of which more than 7,700 acres are in Fairfax County. The Regional Parks system serves a population of 1.6 million people. Parklands within the system include: Bull Run, Bull Run Marina, Fountainhead, Sandy Run, Pohick Bay, Carlyle House Historic Park, Potomac Overlook, Upton Hill, Algonkian, Red Rock, the W&OD Trail, Occoquan, Hemlock Overlook, Cameron Run, Gateway, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Ball's Bluff, Temple Hall, and Brambleton.

In its conservation role, NVRPA is involved in implementing portions of the Environmental Quality Corridors concept, which defines an open space land system designated for long-term protection in the County. In this role, NVRPA places emphasis on acquisition of the shoreline properties along the Potomac, Bull Run, and Occoquan Rivers, while the Fairfax County Park Authority concentrates on acquiring land along the County's interior stream valleys.

## LINK TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan has established a number of objectives and policies in order to:

- ✓ Support the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's efforts to plan, acquire, develop and maintain regional parks and facilities to serve the population of Northern Virginia.
- ✓ Coordinate with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to provide mutually beneficial active and passive recreation facilities and to develop a regional open space system.

Source: 2003 Edition of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, as amended

## CURRENT PROGRAM INITIATIVES

Since FY 2001, the NVRPA has received \$17,203,314 in support from its regional membership jurisdictions, plus an additional \$1,544,680 in grants, donations and miscellaneous revenue, representing an actual program level of \$18,747,994. Many accomplishments during recent years include: the restoration of the 18<sup>th</sup> century log cabin and visitor center renovations at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens; a new picnic/event shelter and golf course renovations at Brambleton Regional Park; installation of a new

floating boat dock, and campground upgrades at Pohick Bay Regional Park; acquisition of land at the park entrance, addition of boat and RV storage, new specialty pool slides, and picnic shelter additions and expansion at Bull Run Regional Park; batting cage improvements at Occoquan Regional Park; conversion of the swimming pool to a water park, installation of energy-efficient HVAC system at clubhouse/meeting center, construction of the maintenance facility, and renovation of miniature golf course at Algonkian Regional Park; trail widening, bridge deck improvements, and new wayside shelters on the Washington & Old Dominion Railroad Regional Park; addition of a fishing pier at Fountainhead Regional Park; installation of new pool slides and new event shelter, and mini-golf upgrades at Cameron Run Regional Park; a new high ropes course, and picnic and meeting shelter at Hemlock Overlook; and on-going renovations and upgrades to existing roads, parking and restroom facilities, and modification of existing features to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A portion of the capital improvement program includes the repair and renovation of existing and aging facilities, such as roof replacements, road repairs, replacement of mechanical systems and similar work to preserve and repair existing facilities. Additional elements of the CIP include land acquisition, expansion of existing facilities, and new features to meet the needs of the region.

Funds from Fairfax County to support the Regional Park Authority's capital improvement program have historically come from General Obligation Bonds. Each of NVRPA's member jurisdictions' share is proportionate to its population percentage in the region. Fairfax County voters approved a bond program in the fall of 2004 that included \$10 million, representing Fairfax County's share of the Authority's capital fund request for park acquisition and development. This referendum supports a level of \$2.5 million per year for four years.

Funds for FY 2008 and beyond have not been formally allocated to specific projects and the following schedule lists only projects for FY 2007.

## **CURRENT PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS**

1. **Brambleton Regional Park (Loudoun County).** \$600,000 for tournament shelter renovations and expansion.
2. **Bull Run Regional Park (Fairfax County).** \$570,000 for shooting center enhancements and miniature golf course renovations.
3. **Cameron Run Regional Park (Alexandria).** \$15,000 for resurfacing swimming pool.
4. **Carlyle House Historic Park (Alexandria).** \$750,000 for fire suppression and HVAC system upgrades and roof replacement.
5. **Headquarters (Fairfax County).** \$85,000 for automated systems and building renovations.
6. **Hemlock Overlook Regional Park (Fairfax County).** \$10,000 for building improvements.
7. **Meadowlark Gardens Regional Park (Fairfax County).** \$20,000 for garden development.
8. **Pohick Bay Regional Park (Fairfax County).** \$95,000 for golf course clubhouse renovations and campground improvements.
9. **Land Acquisition (Region-wide).** \$500,000 for land and easement acquisition.
10. **Vehicles, Equipment and Miscellaneous Improvements (Region-wide).** \$738,000 for vehicles and equipment and various improvements at all parks, central maintenance and headquarters.
11. **Project Support (Region-wide).** \$485,000 for new facilities, renovations, equipment and vehicle replacement. This category includes project management, development and capital equipment purchases not specifically assigned to a particular public use facility or park location.
12. **Roads and Parking (Region-wide).** \$225,000 for improving and renovating gravel and paved surfaces in all parks.

**PROJECT COST SUMMARIES**  
**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**  
**(\$000's)**

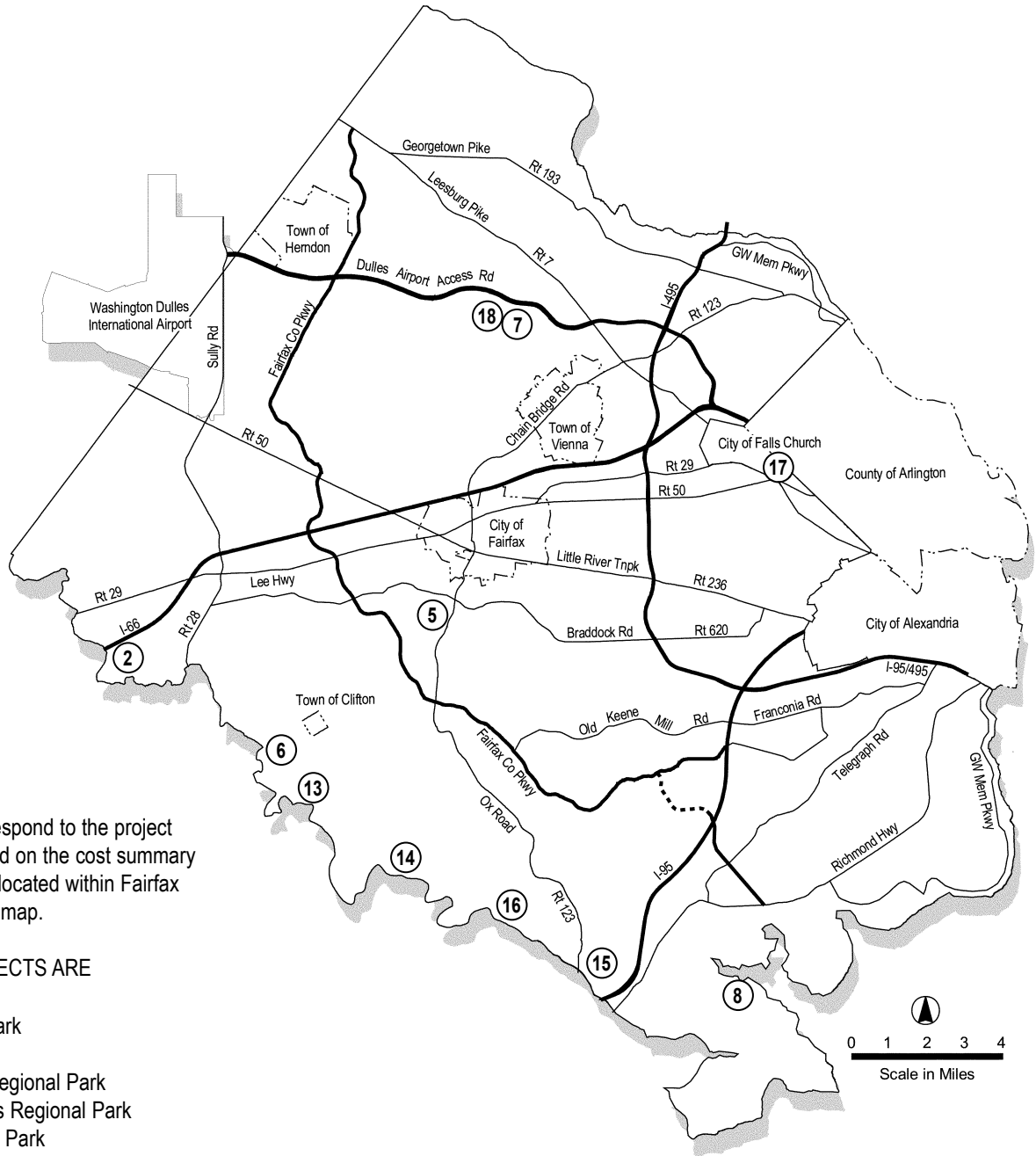
Project Title/ Project Number	Source of Funds	Authorized to be Expended Thru FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	Total FY2007-FY2011	Total FY2012-FY2016	Total Project Estimate
1. Brambleton Regional Park (Loudoun County)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>600</b>					600		600
2. Bull Run Regional Park (Fairfax County)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>570</b>					570		570
3. Cameron Run Regional Park (Alexandria)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>15</b>					15		15
4. Carlyle House Historic Park (Alexandria)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>750</b>					750		750
5. Headquarters (Fairfax County)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>85</b>					85		85
6. Hemlock Overlook Regional Park (Fairfax County)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>10</b>					10		10
7. Meadowlark Gardens Regional Park (Fairfax County)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>20</b>					20		20
8. Pohick Bay Regional Park (Fairfax County)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>95</b>					95		95
9. Land Acquisition (Region-wide)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>500</b>					500		500
10. Vehicles, Equipment and Miscellaneous Improvements (Region-wide)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>738</b>					738		738
11. Project Support (Region-wide)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>485</b>					485		485
12. Roads and Parking (Region-wide)	B	<i>C</i>	<b>225</b>					225		225
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>			<b>\$4,093</b>	<b>\$4,093</b>	<b>\$4,754</b>	<b>\$4,754</b>	<b>\$4,754</b>	<b>\$22,448</b>	<b>\$23,770</b>	<b>\$46,218</b>

Notes:  
Funds beyond FY 2007 have not been formally allocated to specific projects.  
NVRPA project funding is provided by six jurisdictions. Fairfax County's share is approximately 63% of the total based upon its population in the region.  
A "C" in the 'Authorized to be Expended' column denotes a continuing project.  
Numbers in **bold italics** represent funded amounts.

Key: Source of Funds  
B Bonds  
G General Fund  
F Federal  
X Other  
U Undetermined

# Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority

## Location of CIP Projects



**Note:** Map numbers correspond to the project descriptions in the text and on the cost summary tables. Only CIP projects located within Fairfax County are shown on the map.

### THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE FUNDED FOR FY 2007:

- 2. Bull Run Regional Park
- 5. Headquarters
- 6. Hemlock Overlook Regional Park
- 7. Meadowlark Gardens Regional Park
- 8. Pohick Bay Regional Park

### THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS MAY BE FUNDED IN FUTURE YEARS:

- 13. Bull Run Marina
- 14. Fountainhead Regional Park
- 15. Occoquan Regional Park
- 16. Sandy Run Regional Park
- 17. Upton Hill Regional Park
- 18. Washington & Old Dominion (W&OD) Railroad Regional Park